

DOCKET NO: 250653US41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF : DATE ALLOWED: APRIL 19, 2007
JEAN-MICHEL PATRICK MAURICE : EXAMINER: ABOAGYE, M.
FRANCHET, ET AL.
SERIAL NO: 10/803,957 :
FILED: MARCH 19, 2004 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1725
FOR: ASSEMBLY FOR THE :
MANUFACTURE OF A HOLLOW
MECHANICAL PART BY DIFFUSION
BONDING AND SUPERPLASTIC
FORMING, USE OF SUCH AN
ASSEMBLY AND PROCESS FOR
MANUFACTURING SUCH A
MECHANICAL PART

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowability of the claimed invention. In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reason for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance of April 19, 2007, Applicant respectfully submits the following comments.

In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance on page 2 of the Notice of Allowance mailed April 19, 2007, the paragraph 2 states in part:

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The Patents to Douglas teaches diffusion bonding superplastic forming a hollow part from a stack of sheets on a work station placed in a vacuum, but fail to teach, providing a **sealed** reservoir having only one open end; making a sealed join between the open end of said reservoir and a passage of a

stack in a chamber under partial vacuum, so as to form an assembly allowing communication between an internal space of the reservoir and a cavity formed between the stack; heating said chamber to a thermal degradation temperature of a binder, thereby allowing a gases resulting from the degradation of the binder to be sucked into the reservoir;
(Emphasis added.)

However, it is respectfully noted that the Amendment filed February 20, 2007 deleted the word "sealed" from element c of Claim 7. Thus, element c of Claim 7 actually recites "providing a reservoir having only one open end."

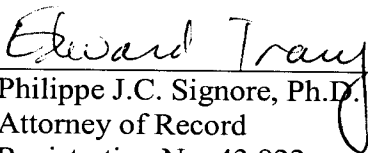
Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the above-quoted statement does not apply to independent Claim 7, or any claim dependent therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

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